### **AUDIT PROTOCOL**

## 1. AUDIT PRINCIPLES

ESI recognizes the importance of its clients ensuring the integrity of their business relationship by engaging in annual audits of their financial arrangements with ESI, and, where applicable (i.e., Medicare Part D), by auditing compliance with applicable regulatory requirements. ESI provides this audit right to each and every client. In granting this right, ESI's primary interest is to facilitate a responsive and responsible audit process. In order to accomplish this goal, for all clients, ESI has established the following Protocol. Our intent is in no way to limit Sponsor's ability to determine that ESI has properly and accurately administered the financial aspects of the Agreement or complied with applicable regulatory requirements, but rather to create a manageable process in order to be responsive to our clients and the independent auditors that they may engage. If Sponsor has any concern that this Protocol will prohibit Sponsor from fully confirming its financial arrangement with ESI, we encourage Sponsor to express such concern at the audit kick-off meeting.

ESI strongly encourages clients to have their auditors, without jeopardizing the independent nature of the audit, review the auditor's initial findings and reports with ESI prior to discussing with the client in order to avoid any unnecessary client confusion. We have found often times that items identified as issues during the initial audit turn out to be non-findings once a dialogue takes place between the auditor and ESI. In other words, we believe it is in everyone's interest to ensure that the auditor and ESI are not simply "missing each other" in the exchange of information prior to the auditor reviewing its findings with the client.

## 2. AUDIT PREREQUISITES

- A. There are four components of your arrangement with ESI eligible for audit on an annual basis:
  - Retrospective Claims
  - Rebates
  - Performance Guarantees
  - Compliance with Regulatory Requirements (i.e., Medicare Part D)

Balancing the need to adequately support the audit process for all ESI clients, with an efficient allocation of resources, we encourage clients to audit all four components, as applicable, through a single annual audit. If you choose to audit the above components separately throughout the year, rather than combining all components into a single annual audit, you will be subject to ESI's standard charges for each additional audit. All such fees shall be reasonable and based on ESI's costs for supporting such additional audits.

- B. ESI will provide all data reasonably necessary for Sponsor to determine that ESI has performed in accordance with contractual terms.
- C. ESI engages a national accounting firm, at its sole cost and expense, to conduct a SSAE 16 audit on behalf of its clients. Upon request, ESI will provide the results of its most recent SSAE 16 audit. Testing of the areas covered by the SSAE 16 is not within the scope of Sponsor's audit rights (i.e., to confirm the financial aspects of the Agreement) and is therefore not permitted. However, if requested, ESI will explain the SSAE 16 audit process and findings to Sponsor in order for Sponsor to gain an understanding of the SSAE 16.

# 3. AUDITS

- A. ESI recommends that the initial audit period for a claims audit cover a timeframe not to exceed twenty-four (24) months immediately preceding the request to audit (the "Audit Period"). This Audit Period allows a reasonable amount of time for both parties to conclude the audit before claims data is archived off the adjudication system. ESI will accommodate reasonable requests to extend the Audit Period, but this may delay ESI's response time to audit findings due to the age of the claims. Due to the additional resources necessary to pull claims data older than twenty-four (24) months, if you request to extend the Audit Period, you will be subject to ESI's standard charges for such additional data pulls. All such fees shall be reasonable and based on ESI's additional costs associated with retrieval and reporting of such data. If the parties mutually determine, acting in good faith, that the initial audit demonstrates in any material respects that ESI has not administered the financial arrangement consistent with the contract terms of the Agreement, then ESI will support additional auditing beyond the Audit Period at no additional charge.
- B. CMS modifies its requirements for administering the Medicare Part D on an annual basis. For this reason, ESI recommends that the initial audit period for a Medicare Part D compliance audit cover a timeframe not to exceed the twelve (12) months immediately preceding the request to audit (collectively, the "Medicare Part D Audit Period"). This Medicare Part D Audit Period is intended to assist our clients with the CMS annual oversight requirements.
- C. When performing a Rebate audit, Sponsor may perform an on-site review of the applicable components of manufacturer agreements, selected by Sponsor, as reasonably necessary to audit the calculation of the Rebate payments made to Sponsor by ESI. Our ability to drive value through the supply chain and in our negotiations with manufacturers is dependent upon the strict confidentiality and use of these agreements. Providing access to these agreements to third parties that perform services in the industry beyond traditional financial auditing jeopardizes our ability to competitively drive value. For this reason, access to and audit of manufacturer agreements is restricted to a mutually agreed upon national CPA accounting firm whose audit department is a separate stand-alone division of the business, which carries insurance for professional malpractice of at least Two Million Dollars (\$2,000,000).

- D. ESI recommends that Sponsor select an initial number of manufacturer contracts to enable Sponsor to audit fifty percent (50%) of the total Rebate payments due to Sponsor for two (2) calendar quarters during the twelve (12) month period immediately preceding the audit (the "Rebate Audit Scope and Timeframe"). ESI will accommodate reasonable requests to extend this Rebate Audit Scope and Timeframe, but this may delay ESI's on-site preparation time as well as response time to audit findings. Due to the additional resources necessary to support a Rebate audit beyond the Rebate Audit Scope and Timeframe, if you request to extend the Rebate Audit Scope and Timeframe, you will be subject to ESI's standard charges for such additional audit support. All such fees shall be reasonable and based on ESI's additional costs. If the parties mutually determine, acting in good faith, that the initial Rebate audit demonstrates in any material respects that ESI has not administered Rebates consistent with the contract terms of the Agreement, then ESI will support additional auditing beyond the Rebate Audit Scope and Timeframe at no additional charge.
- E. If you have a Pass-Through pricing arrangement for Participating Pharmacy claims, ESI will provide the billable and payable amount for a sampling of claims provided by you or your auditor (i.e., ESI will provide the actual documented claim record) during the audit to verify that ESI has administered such Pass-Through pricing arrangement consistent with the terms of the Agreement. If further documentation is required, ESI may provide a statistically valid sample of claims remittances to the Participating Pharmacies to demonstrate ESI's administration of Pass-Through pricing. In any instance where the audit demonstrates that the amount billed to you does not equal the Pass-Through amount paid to the Participating Pharmacy, you or your auditor may perform an on-site audit of the applicable Participating Pharmacy contract rate sheet(s).

### 4. AUDIT FINDINGS

- A. Following Sponsor's initial audit, Sponsor (or its Auditor) will provide ESI with a written report of suspected errors, if any. In order for ESI to evaluate Sponsor's audit report, Sponsor shall provide an electronic data file in a mutually agreed upon format containing up to 300 claims for further investigation by ESI.
- B. Following Sponsor's initial audit of Medicare Part D compliance, Sponsor (or its Auditor) will provide ESI with a written report of suspected non-compliant issues and payment reconciliation issues, if any. In order for ESI to evaluate Sponsor's audit report, Sponsor shall provide ESI with specific regulatory criteria and Medicare Part D program requirements used to cite each suspected non-compliant and payment reconciliation issue.
- D. ESI will use commercially reasonable best efforts to respond to the audit report in no more than sixty (60) days from ESI's receipt of the report. Please be aware, however, that audits that require evaluation of six (6) or more findings typically require additional time to respond due to the complex nature of such audits. Our pledge to respond within the foregoing timeframe is predicated on a good faith and cooperative effort between Sponsor and/or its Auditor and ESI.
- E. Sponsor agrees that once audit results are accepted by both parties, the audit shall be considered closed and final. To the extent the mutually accepted audit results demonstrate claims errors, ESI will reprocess the claims and make corresponding adjustments to Sponsor through credits to a future invoice(s). If we are unable to reprocess claims and issue corresponding credits to Sponsor through this process, ESI will make adjustments to Sponsor via a check or credit.

# 5. CONFIDENTIALITY

ESI's contracts are highly confidential and proprietary. For this reason, ESI only permits on-site review rather than provide copies to our clients. During on-site contract review, Sponsor (or its Auditor) may take and retain notes to the extent necessary to document any identified errors, but may not copy (through handwritten notes or otherwise) or retain any contracts (in part or in whole) or related documents provided or made available by ESI in connection with the audit. ESI will be entitled to review any notes to affirm compliance with this paragraph.